prevention of HIV/AIDS, and also to sensitize learners, school teachers, Principals and the community towards special needs of those affected with HIV/AIDS.

(b) No such instance has come to the notice of CBSE.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) CBSE has conducted several nodal teachers training programmmes for sensitizing teachers, Advocacy Programmes to sensitize Principals and Master Trainer Programmes to create master trainers and resource persons. All these educators further interact with the learners as well as community in large to ensure that persons with HIV/AIDS are treated with dignity and respect.

Upgradation of higher education

799. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the University Grants Commission, higher education in the country is in crying need for an upgrade on almost all indicators from faculty standards to library facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the quality gap in both the universities and the colleges is alarming as 25 per cent faculty positions in universities remain vacant and 57 per cent teachers in colleges do not have either an M.Phil or a Ph.D; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to upgrade higher education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Upgradation in terms of quality is a continuous process in Higher Education.

(b) As per a study conducted by UGC, 24% of teachers in Universities and 57% of teachers in Colleges are without M.Phil / Ph.D. The quality status of different universities/colleges, as reflected in the Assessments made by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) also varies.

(c) UGC has proposed various schemes during XI Plan to mitigate these quality gaps.

Universalisation of elementary education

800. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dream of universalising elementary education by 2010 through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is all set to become a nightmare, as most of the States are unable to match the Centre's share in the new funding pattern of 50:50;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the new funding pattern would certainly derail SSA in the Bimaru States, as nearly 50 per cent of the Rs. 10,600 crore given to SSA in this year's general budget could remain unutilised; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take; to make SSA successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Centre-State fund sharing pattern for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) as of 01. 04.2007 is in the ratio of 50:50. Almost all States have requested for continuation of the Tenth Five Year Plan Centre-State funding pattern of 75:25 (90:10 for North Eastern States) during Eleventh Five Year Plan as well.

The State/UTs annual work plan & budget for 2007-08 under the SSA have been sanctioned by the Government of India keeping in mind the Budget Estimates of Rs. 10,671 crore for the SSA in the Central Budget.

Amendment to Code of Criminal Procedure

801. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court on 22nd January 2007, had pointed out that Government have made an amendment to Section 164A of the Code of Criminal Procedure but has not allocated more courts and personnel, before implementing legal reforms across the country;

(b) whether, under Section 164A, the police would get the statement of the witness recorded before a magistrate, to prevent any witnesses from turning hostile later;

(c) whether Government have considered the view of the Supreme Court on this issue; and

(d) if so, the steps being considered to allocate more courts and personnel before implementing legal reforms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Registry of Supreme Court of India have informed that they have no information as regards any judgment on the newly inserted section 164-A Cr.P.C.

(b) and (c) Section 164-A Cr.P.C. was inserted in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 through the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 to provide for medical examination of the victim of rape.

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006 introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd August, 2006 has, *inter alia,* a proposal to insert Section 164-B Cr.P.C. to require any police officer not below the rank of the Sub-Inspector, in the course of investigation of any offence punishable with death or imprisonment for 10 years or more, to produce all persons whose statements appear to him to be material and essential for proper investigation of the case, to the nearest Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate as the case may be, for recording their statements.